

CLAIMS

Claims 13, 14, 23 and 24 have been amended. No claims are being added. All pending claims are reproduced below.

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the method comprising:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn; and

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject,

wherein the method further comprises

~~selecting one or more areas of the subject for the user to work on~~ after the presentation of materials regarding a specific area of the subject to the user, and further after the user has been assessed to have achieved at least a passing grade or to have understood the specific area, selecting one or more other areas of the subject for the user to work on, and

after selecting the one or more other areas of the subject for the user to work on, selecting the specific area of the subject for the user to work on,

wherein the specific area is selected for the user without depending on whether the user has been assessed to have achieved a certain satisfactory level of understanding in the one or more other areas.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein:
the testing on the user comprises testing the user on a plurality of areas of the subject;

wherein

the subject includes a broad area and a narrow area, with the broad area covering the narrow area; and

the suggestion can be on the broad area or the narrow area.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein based on the suggestion, materials are presented to the user to allow the user to practice on the subject so as to further enhance the user's understanding in the subject.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the user is allowed to be involved in an interactive exploration to learn about the subject.

17. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the method comprising:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn; and

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user,

wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject,

wherein the method further comprises retrieving materials relating a first area and a second area of the subject, with the user previously being assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in the first area, before retrieving materials in the second area, for the user to learn.

18. (Withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 17, further comprising retrieving, for the user to learn, materials in an area relating a third area and a fourth area of the subject, with the user previously being assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in both the third and the fourth areas, depending on the time elapsed from the time when the user has been assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in the third area.

19. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the method comprising:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn;

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject; and

determining a reward for the user based on one or more conditions relating to the user learning the subject, wherein the reward depends on a previously-known preference of the user.

20. (Withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 19, further comprising determining whether to restrict the user from enjoying certain materials not for learning the subject, wherein the materials require a device to fulfill its entertainment purpose.

21. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the method comprising:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject; and
analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject,

wherein the method further comprises determining, based on one or more conditions relating to the user learning the subject, whether to restrict the user from enjoying certain materials not for learning the subject, and

wherein the restricting is achieved by modifying at least one function of a device with respect to the certain materials, and the materials require the at least one function of the device to fulfill the materials' entertainment purpose.

22. (Withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 21, further comprising determining a reward for the user.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of instructions for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, result in the computer:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn; and

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject;

~~wherein one or more areas of the subject are selected for the user to work on after the presentation of materials regarding a specific area of the subject to the user, and further after the user has been assessed to have achieved at least a passing grade or to have understood the specific area, one or more other areas of the subject are selected for the user to work on, and~~

wherein after the one or more other areas are selected for the user to work on, the specific area of the subject is selected for the user to work on, and

wherein the specific area is selected for the user without depending on whether the user has been assessed to have achieved a certain satisfactory level of understanding in the one or more other areas.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein:

the testing on the user comprises testing the user on a plurality of areas of the subject;

the subject includes a broad area and a narrow area, with the broad area covering the narrow area; and

the suggestion can be on the broad area or the narrow area.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein based on the suggestion, materials are presented to the user to allow the user to practice on the subject so as to further enhance the user's understanding in the subject.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein the user is allowed to be involved in an interactive exploration to learn about the subject.

27. (Withdrawn) A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of instructions for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, result in the computer:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn;

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user; and

retrieving materials relating a first area and a second area of the subject, with the user previously being assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in the first area, before retrieving materials in the second area, for the user to learn,

wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject.

28. (Withdrawn) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 27, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, further result in the computer retrieving, for the user to learn, materials in an area relating a third area and a fourth area of the subject, with the user previously being assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in both the third and the fourth areas, depending on the time elapsed from the time when the user has been assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in the third area.

29. (Withdrawn) A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of instructions for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, result in the computer:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn;

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject; and

determining a reward for the user based on one or more conditions relating to the user learning the subject, wherein the reward depends on a previously-known preference of the user.

30. (Withdrawn) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 29, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, further result in the computer determining whether to restrict the user from enjoying certain materials not for learning the subject, wherein the materials require a device to fulfill its entertainment purpose.

31. (Withdrawn) A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of instructions for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, result in the computer:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject;

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject; and

determining, based on one or more conditions relating to the user learning the subject, whether to restrict the user from enjoying certain materials not for learning the subject, wherein the restricting is achieved by modifying at least one function of a device with respect to the certain materials, and wherein the materials require the at least one function of the device to fulfill the materials' entertainment purpose.

32. (Withdrawn) The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 31, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, further result in the computer determining a reward for the user.